

--Priority Information

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This application is the National stage application of PCT/JP97/02456, filed July 15, 1997, which claims priority to Japanese application 8/185216, filed July 15, 1996.--

On page 9, line 15, please delete "4a" and insert therefor --4A--

On page 9, line 15, please delete "4b" and insert therefor --4B--

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1 and 3-10.

Amend claim 2 as follows.

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2. [A] An isolated VEGF-D protein encoded by [a DNA] an isolated nucleic acid
hybridizing under highly stringent conditions [with the DNA shown by] to the
complement of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 wherein said protein has a
biological activity of a VEGF family protein.

In the Drawings

Please replace Figure 4 filed with the application with the substitute page of Figure 4 submitted herewith, which refers to panels A and B in capital letters.